

The PVRC Newsletter

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NEXT MEETING: Monday, Nov. 10

QTH: Temple Hills, MD Church
(directions on last page)

AGENDA:-1987 dues

-Results CQ WW SSB & SS CW contests

-Demonstration and discussion of
packet radio: the future for
contest spotting nets?

BRING CQ & SS LOGS

CHRISTMAS DINNER: Tuesday, Dec. 9, Fort Myer Officers' Club

CONTESTS

Nov. 15-17 ARRL Sweepstakes SSB

Nov. 29-30 CQ Worldwide CW

Dec. 1, 8 pm, discussion of CQ WW CW on 147.00 repeater

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Our annual Christmas dinner will be held on Tuesday, December 9th at the Officers' Club at Fort Myer (Arlington), Virginia. This is a location close to D.C. and fairly equidistant for members residing on the north or south edges of our club territory. A cash bar will open at 6:30, to be followed by a roast beef dinner at 7:30. Cost is \$16. per person. Please reserve as soon as possible by sending the below form to Andy, W3XE. Your reservation will facilitate our arrangements.

Our speaker will be Jim Talens, N3JT, who will describe his recent trek to San Andres Island for a CQ WW SSB operation from the QTH of HK0BKX as N3JT/HK0. Jim's tales will interest non-hams as well as contesters, so please bring your spouse or friend to this yearly gathering. Jim increasingly has been making big noises on the bands, winning Virginia in the 1985 SS phone contest and making over 4800 QSOs during the 1986 CQ WW phone contest from San Andres. In real life Jim, who is both a communications attorney and engineer, is Chief of the Domestic Services Branch of the FCC's Common Carrier Bureau.

1986 CQ WORLDWIDE SSB CONTEST

A lot of RF radiation was observed being emitted from PVRC member stations during the annual CQ Worldwide SSB contest. Despite predictions for poor conditions, propagation once again was excellent. The solar flux stayed in the 90's, the geomagnetic activity remained low, and even ten meters opened to Europe while 15 and 20 meters were end-to-end bedlam with all the contest activity.

All PVRC members' activity has not reached me, but it is clear that we were well represented on the bands. On the DXpedition scene we were ably represented by Jim, N3JT, operating N3JT/HKO to the tune of 4800 QSOs single op. despite problems with the 40/80/160 antenna on San Andres Island. And Jack, N4RV, was heard with a group signing PJ1B from Bonaire.

Locally, multi/multi W3LPL was inaugurated, to the tune of 7.8 million points. In the single band/single op. categories, Carl, K3RV, may have won 15 meters for the U.S., with in the neighborhood of an incredible 1900 QSOs. On 20 meters, K3ZJ racked up about 1275 QSOs using a single 204BA.

Three top scores were made in the single op./all band category. Wayne, N2FB, beat out KM3T & K3NA for the PVRC championship in this tough category. A great job by Wayne, Dave, and Eric. Larry, W3HHG also made about 780 QSOs in a good effort, and W3MR reports around 638K points. In the QRP category, K3WS will rank near if not at the top worldwide, completing 450 QSOs using only an Argonaut (less than 5 watts). Also heard on the bands: K4YF, W3IUU, KE9A, K3WUW, W3CNQ, and W3YY.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

VOTED in as members were KE9A, WP4J, and W9LT. Welcome!

A discussion concerning membership criteria was held. This discussion was totally unrelated to the particular membership applications presented at the meeting. During the discussion it was noted that applicants require a sponsor, so in any questionable case a potential sponsor should endeavor to ascertain the applicant's qualifications and overall intent to comply with FCC regulations, particularly those related to permissible output power, before agreeing to sponsorship. It was emphasized that PVRC members do not condone use of power that exceeds the legal limits during contests. Such use is both illegal and unsportsmanlike.

An extensive discussion concerning the amount of 1987 dues followed, ending with a consensus to a) check out the Maryland Radio Center offer to pay newsletter postage costs in return for including a 1-page advertisement, and b) decide issue at November meeting so that 1) all interested members will have notice of the subject, & 2) a decision will be reached in time to begin collection in December, as is customary.

NOVEMBER MEETING

PACKET RADIO. A number of members have noted the use of packet radio in New England for a contest spotting net, and have suggested that PVRC members may want to explore this, as with packet it is not necessary to have an operator dedicated to a two meter net, or operators interrupted to hear each report. Instead, each report is silently displayed on the CRT (or TV) screen, where it will remain until moved by later reports or by the

receiving operator. Of course, permanent hardcopy also can be obtained.

Believing that many of our members have not seen a packet system work, or are not aware of the increasingly reasonable costs of such stations, Tom WA3TAI and Lee KF3T will set up a packet station at the meeting site, demonstrate its operation, and answer questions.

DUES. At the October meeting there was substantial discussion about 1987 dues. Anticipating a substantial deficit for 1985-'86, in April we voted to establish dues at \$15. for 1987 forward. In October the treasurer's report for 1985-'86 showed a deficit of \$500, and this was only operating costs and external contest awards -- we did not have any costs for the PVRC five million award or any extraordinary expenses. With the same expenses projected for 1986-'87, the new dues would cut the deficit in half (which is being covered from a balance left over from the repeater fund).

Andy suggested that we rescind the dues increase returning to \$10. In discussion, Andy disclosed that the new Maryland Radio Center was willing to pay our newsletter postage costs in return for including a 1-page advertisement in each issue, which they would reproduce and supply. Walt is to contact the radio store to work out the details. If this can be arranged, it would result in a \$345 reduction in our 1986-'87 budget expenses, leaving us with a \$155 projected deficit at \$10./year, and a \$95./projected surplus at \$15./year. Since we normally begin collecting dues in December, it is imperative that all members with an interest in this subject be at this meeting to discuss and decide this issue. We expect to know whether the radio store will commit to the newsletter arrangement by the meeting.

Directions to Meeting

Capital Beltway to Maryland Exit No. 7 (Route 5, Branch Avenue). Exit **SOUTH** towards Waldorf. At first stoplight, turn **RIGHT** onto Manchester. Turn into first driveway on the left, follow to church. (Manchester is only one block long, so the appropriate driveway on the left should be apparent.) If need assistance, call in on the 147.00 repeater.

1986 PVRC Christmas Dinner Tuesday, Dec. 9 at 6:30p - ??
Fort Myer Officers' Club, Arlington, Virginia

Send check payable to "PVRC" and this slip to :
Carl Anderson W3XE, 14601 Claude Lane, Silver Spring, MD 20904

___ reservations, at \$16.00 each, \$___ TOTAL ENCLOSED

FROM: _____ call _____

address _____